09/89038**T**Rec'd PCT/PTO 2 7 JUL 2001

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO: 70177

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

: BUHL et al.

PCT No

: PCT/DE00/04217

Filed

: July 27, 2001

For

: AXLE SUSPENSION...

Dated

: July 27, 2001

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the specification originally filed, with the enclosed substitute specification. A marked up copy of the original specification is attached. Applicant states that no new matter has been added.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1 to 9 without prejudice as follows:

1. (AMENDED) An axle suspension for a rigid vehicle axle, the axle suspension comprising:

a four-point connecting rod arranged above the vehicle axle;

two vehicle axle joints connecting two points of said four-point connecting rod to said

1